

**HOWARD COUNTY ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

April 20, 2016

Howard County Health Department, Barton A and B

ADAAB MEMBERS/DESIGNEES/GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Chinwe Adetula, Barbara Allan, Tsega Amahatsion, Rick Bergin, Robert Ehrhardt, Joe Gagliardi, Kassy Hargadon-Zester, Cindy Johnson, Jack Kavanagh, Sophie Lovering, Bruce McDonald, Timothy Mitchell, Ivan Montoya, Chris Robinson, Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Cindy Johnson, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Linda Zumbrum, Judge Ricardo Zwaig

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS: The meeting was called to order at 5:18 P.M. by Chair Joan Webb Scornaienchi. She welcomed the board and guests and everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The April 20, 2016 Agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The March 16, 2016 Minutes were approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Provided by Roe

Jurisdictions across Maryland received grant award letters from the Behavioral Health Administration reducing general treatment budgets to move ambulatory outpatient substance use disorder grant funds to the Administrative Service Agency, Beacon Health Options (formerly known as Value Options). This will allow providers to receive reimbursement for services for the uninsured through Beacon Health Options. The effective date is January 1, 2017 (FY17). This raises concern regarding the ability to sustain adequate access to care since few providers in Howard County are registered providers with Beacon Health Options. Given this budget cut, the Health Department will close clinical services for ambulatory outpatient substance use disorder on 12/31/16. The Health Department is in discussions with private providers on expanding services for the population base.

The Health Department will maintain the Opioid Misuse Prevention Program funding within the Health Department in FY17.

The next Overdose Response Program trainings are scheduled for Monday, April 25, May 16, and June 13 at 10:00 A.M. at the Health Department. Several other trainings are scheduled at community locations. 148 people have been trained year to date in FY16.

The Health Department is continuing to work with the Detention Center referring inmates for Vivitrol injections prior to release from incarceration. The Health Department provides outpatient treatment and additional Vivitrol injections following release. There have been several new referrals recently.

COMAR 10.63 Community Behavioral Health Programs is still pending. Lots of opposition has been received from the public which has delayed the effective date which was to be 1/1/16. The date agencies are to be accredited is expected to be 18 months from the COMAR effective date.

Keep the Door Open Act SB 497 and HB 682 related to mandatory increases in reimbursement rates was discussed and the possible impact to the field since the bill failed to pass as amended.

HC DRUGFREE PREVENTION/EDUCATION/OPIOID UPDATE: Provided by Joan

Joan explained how the Health Department's recent announcement to keep the FY2017 OMPP Grant rather than passing funds through to HC DrugFree as anticipated impacts the nonprofit.

The next semi-annual drug Take Back Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 30 from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Once again, outside HC DrugFree's office in the Wilde Lake Village Center a drive-thru drop-off will be available. In addition, the Howard County Police will have staff at the permanent medication collection boxes on April 30. HC DrugFree's location will be the only site collecting sharps (needles, syringes, and EpiPens).

HC DrugFree will begin promoting 4 teen-created opioid films entered into the HC DrugFree Category of the 2016 HoCo Film Fest. ADAAB members are encouraged to promote these films.

HC DrugFree is expected to receive the first order of personal secured medication boxes in time to distribute at Take Back Day on April 30. Additional boxes will be ordered for future distribution.

MEMO RECOMMENDATION UPDATE: Joan, Mr. Kavanagh, and Roe are a part of a workgroup to determine how to advocate for support in addressing budget cuts, low Medicaid reimbursements and high cost/staff demand of accreditation. The workgroup reached out to Carl DeLorenzo from the County Executive's Office for assistance. The memo is being finalized for submission with revisions.

NEW BUSINESS: None to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Joan announced that Drug/DUI Court graduation again conflicts with an ADAAB meeting. ADAAB members voted to move the May meeting to the District Court and change the meeting start time to 5:30 P.M. Robert Ehrhardt will secure a meeting room.

Next Meeting is May 18th at 5:30 P.M. at the Howard County District Court following the Drug/DUI Court Graduation at 4:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 P.M.

April Minutes Approved.